To the Rural District Councillors
of the Westhampnett Union.

My Lords and Gentlemen.-

In opening my report for the year 1898, I wish to draw attention to the increase of notifications which has been made. The number for this year is nearly three times that of the preceeding year, viz 127 as against 49 for the year 1897.

The Enteric Fever cases have mostly been caused from eating cockles which have been taken from the Fishbourne estuary. So long as the cockles are eaten from this source, we must expect Enteric Fever to be prevalent in our district.

Enteric Fever appeared at Stoke, but these cases arose from some old nuisances which I reported on before, but these thanks to the Duke of Richmond and Gordon have been remedied and his Grace has also made some recent improvements at the School, which I hope the School Inspector will approve.

The cases of Enteric Fever at Fishbourne were caused by the effluvium from the Chichester Sewage Works.

The Cases at Walberton were due to defective Sanitary arrangements

with too large a family in too small a space.

There have been 80 cases of Scarlet Fever; those cases in the Yapton and Barnham districts have been dissemi-nated through the Schools it is the old story of one boy attending the School in the peeling stage of Scarlet Fever.

The number of cases in South Bersted can be reduced if proper drain-age arrangements are carried out in the Town Cross Estate, and it is now nearly time my suggestions should be carried out, which I have advanced for several years.- The steam laundry has been connected with the main drain and the boys Home, the Houses now on this estate should be connected also.

Under the notifiable diseases num-bering eleven, we have only three deaths to record, viz one from Enteric Fever and two from Erysipelas. This is satisfactory.- but three cases from our district died from Enteric Fever in the Chichester Infirmary which being expun-ged from their death rate are accoun-ted for nowhere.

The death-rate for the district is 15.30 per 1000 which is larger than some previous years but not so large as last year. There was one death of over 100 years. The number of deaths under one year was three less than last year and for the ages of 15 and

under 25 one less.

I have made many visits during the year to ascertain the causes of the Scarlet Fever and also the source of infection of the Enteric Fever cases: and I am happy to say, I have been able to trace the course of infection to my entire satisfaction.

The samples of water which have been brought to me to deal with number 74 and of these 21 were totally unfit, 18 suspicious and 38 usable or good. My inspectors have done their work well, and have at all times reported ~~to me~~ their nuisances to me as they arose, and they have called on me once a week regularly. I am sorry to be obliged to allude to the removal by death of our late vice-chairman who although he was opposed to me in some public work, asked me to attend to him in his last illness.

I append the work done by my Inspectors of nuisances and also the tables A & B. The dry weather and the dearth of water gave the Inspectors as well as myself plenty of opportunities of visiting the entire district.

R. J. Bostock
M.D.

March 2. 1899.

Analysis of Work done and report of Inspectors of nuisances for the Westhampnett Union District for the year ending the

31st December 189

Number of Premises inspected	789
Particulars of nuisances discovered during the year.- viz.	
Foul Privies Urinals & Cesspools	31
Various accumulations which were a nuisance	28
Houses overcrowded	5
Swine kept so as to be a nuisance	3
Samples of Water taken	77
Totally unfit	21
Suspicious	18
Usable or good	38

Particulars of work done for the abatement of nuisances.

Nos of Privies, Cesspits Urinals & Ashpits	47
Wells cleared and covered	21
Houses limewashed	74
Houses Fumigated	55
Cases of overcrowding	5
New Drains and alterations	13
New Privies, Earth Closets or W Cs	6